

METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING MICROBIAL PROLIFERATION GENES

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method for identifying endogenous microbial proliferation genes for growth and viability is disclosed herein. The method involves exogenous nucleic acids that are used to
5 conditionally produce antisense inhibitors of endogenous complementary mRNAs in a microorganism. Antisense fragments that result in lethality when expressed indicate that the endogenous gene is a proliferation gene. The method can also be used with sequences in sense orientation. The strategy can be used to identify new gene targets for novel antibiotics.

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